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# Message Text

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73
ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 SCA-01 ABF-01

TRSE-00 OMB-01 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 DRC-01 /197 W
---------- 125427
P R 152112Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9401
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4156

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, UN, SREF
SUBJ: UNHCR FUND FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES

REF: STATE 143995

1. SUMMARY. GOC IS CONCERNED ABOUT USG CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR SPECIFICALLY FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES. IT IS ALSO WORRIED ABOUT REPORT THAT PROGRAM WILL BE MANAGED FROM MEXICO CITY. END SUMMARY.

2. UNDER SEC FOREIGN RELATIONS (NAVY CAPTAIN) CLAUDIO COLLADOS CALLED ME IN NOON JULY 15 TO CONVEY GOC CONCERN ON ASPECTS THIS SUBJECT. HE UNDERSTOOD USG HAD DECIDED TO RESPOND TO AN APPEAL FROM UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES FOR FUNDS FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES AT RATIO $1 FOR EVERY $2 COLLECTED FROM OTHER DONOR STATES, AND THAT INITIAL INCREMENT OF $1.4 MILLION FOR WHAT REMAINS OF CY74 HAD BEEN ALLOCATED BY USG.

3. COLLADOS SAID GOC HAS OF COURSE NO OBJECTION TO HUMANITARIAN
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ASSISTANCE OF THIS KIND, BUT IT SAW POLITICAL PROBLEMS IF CONTRIBU-

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TION WERE DESIGNATED SPECIFICALLY FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY IF DONORS INCLUDED SOVIET UNION. POLITICAL CAPITAL COULD BE MADE BY ENEMIES OF GOC ABROAD OUT OF WHAT COULD BE REPRESENTED AS WORLDWIDE COOPERATION TO MEET MAJOR PROBLEM, COLLADOS INDICATED. IT WOULD BE GREATLY PREFERABLE IF USG CONTRIBUTION COULD BE MADE TO GENERAL FUND OF UNHCR, WITHOUT SPECIFYING THAT FUNDS WERE INTENDED FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES, THE UNHCR THEREAFTER MAKING ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATION TO USE THIS CONTRIBUTION FOR ASSISTING CHILEAN REFUGEES.

4. COLLADOS SAW FURTHER PROBLEM IN REPORT THAT UNHCR FUND FOR CHILEAN REFUGEES WOULD HAVE HEADQUARTERS OR OTHER OPERATING OFFICE IN MEXICO CITY. GIVEN THE CURRENTLY UNSATISFACTORY STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN MEXICO AND CHILE AND FACT THAT CERTAIN POLITICALLY ACTIVE ANTI-GOC FIGURES INCLUDING WIDOW OF PRESIDENT ALLENDE HAVE BEEN SHELTERED THERE, GOC CONSIDERED VENUE INAPPROPRIATE. IN POINT OF FACT MAJOR CHILEAN REFUGEE POPULATIONS ARE IN ARGENTINA AND PERU, AND IT SEEMED TO GOC THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR SUCH PROGRAM TO HAVE HEADQUARTERS THERE OR IN SOME NEARBY COUNTRY SUCH AS BRAZIL OR PARAGUAY.

5. I TOLD COLLADOS I UNDERSTOOD USG HAD INDEED RESPONDED TO UNHCR REQUEST WITH CONTRIBUTION OF $1.4 MILLION. I SAID IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT UNHCR ORDINARILY SOLICITS CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS, AND THAT I ASSUMED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE FOR OUR CONTRIBUTION TO BE DESIGNATED IN MORE GENERAL FASHION WITHOUT SPECIFYING THAT IT IS FOR CHILEANS, BUT THAT I WOULD CONVEY CONCERN EXPRESSED BY HIM ON BEHALF OF GOC TO MAY GOVT. I ALSO VENTURED THAT TO MY KNOWLEDGE USSR HAS NOT COOPERATED IN UNHCR REFUGEE RELIEF PROGRAMS AND THAT I HAD NO INFORMATION CONFIRMING HIS IMPRESSION THAT SOVIETS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THIS ONE.

6. AS TO RUNNING THE PROGRAM FROM MEXICO, I SAID I PERSONALLY SAW CONSIDERABLE LOGIC IN COLLADOS' ARGUMENT. UNHCR HAD ALWAYS GONE TO GREATEST LENGTHS TO AVOID POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS, AND I WOULD INQUIRE AS TO WHETHER COLLADOS' INFORMATION WAS ACCURATE. SAID I WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM ON RECEIPT OF FURTHER INFORMATION. AT THAT TIME I WILL STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT RE MODALITIES OF OUR CONTRIBUTION (REFTEL).

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7. ACTION REQUESTED. PLEASE INSTRUCT REGARDING REPLY TO GOC DEMARCHE.
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NNN

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# Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a
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